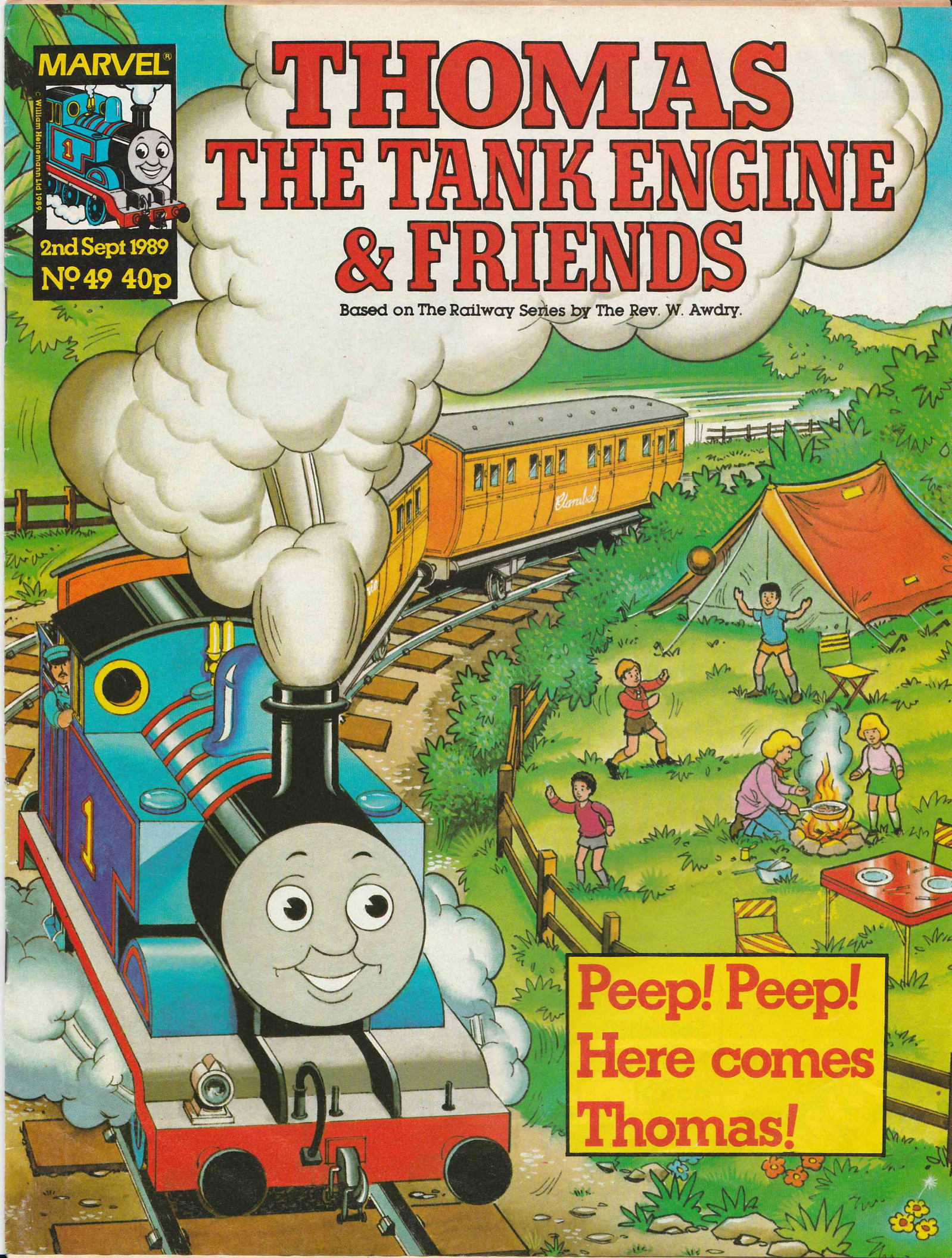
MARVEL®
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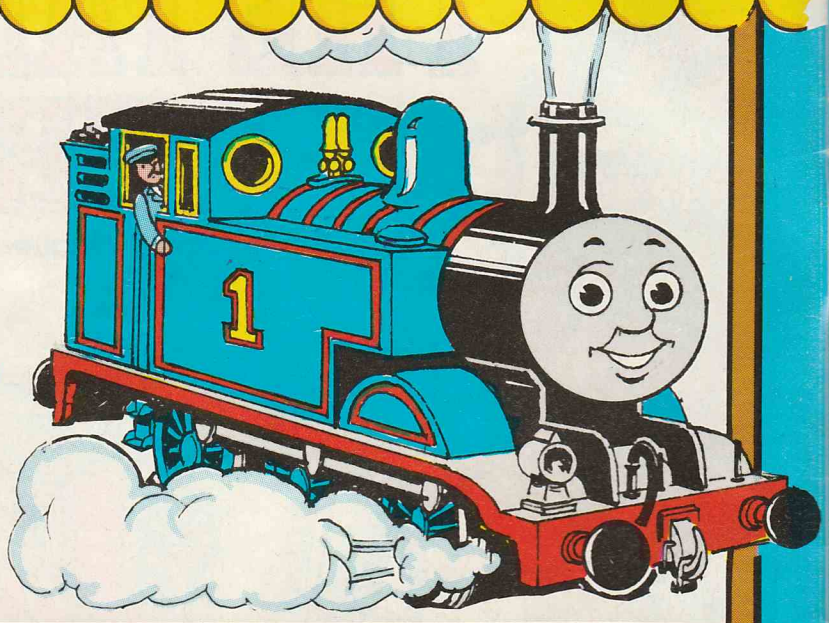
2nd Sept 1989
No 49 40p
THOMAS
THE TANK ENGINE
& FRIENDS
Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.
Peep! Peep!
Here comes
Thomas!

THE THOMAS CLUB PAGE

Peep! Peep! Can you see Thomas puffing past the campsite on our cover? In the Summer months Thomas sees many campers on the Island of Sodor – and people having picnics too.
Don't miss the story about the naughty litterbugs on page 8!



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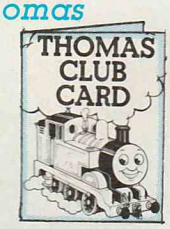
Take out a subscription to **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends** and every issue will be sent straight to your home for a year! You will also receive a splendid **Thomas Pack** and become an automatic member of the **Thomas Club** too!

MEMBERSHIP CARDS!

There is another way of joining the **Thomas Club** without taking out a year's subscription. Just collect 3 tokens like the one on the bottom of this page. Send one yellow, one red and one green token, together with a stamped addressed envelope, to: *Thomas Membership Cards, Marvel Comics, 13-15 Arundel Street, London WC2.*



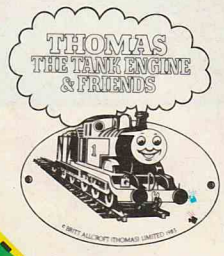
Please allow 28 days for delivery of your very own little black and white membership card plus number!

HELLO THERE!

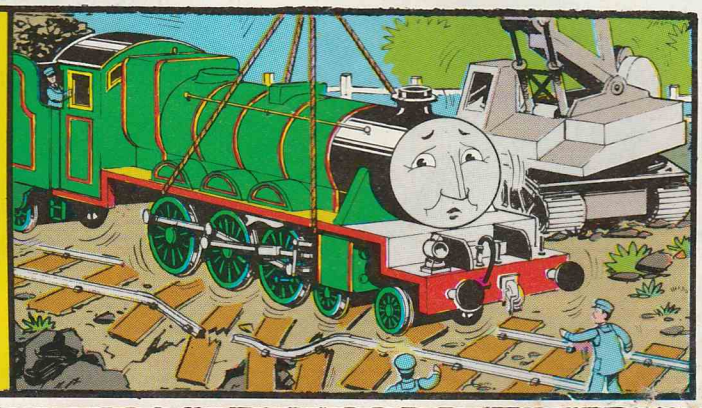
The Fat Controller would like to say a special hello to the following readers:

Thomas Kenny, Nicholas Horrell aged 4, **Lee Bonner (0739) and his sister Terri, Lyndon Allen** who was 5 last month, and **David Darke,** aged 2, from Devon.

If you'd like a friendly hello on this page, just send your name to the Fat Controller at the address on the letters page!



In our next issue: Oh dear! Trouble with the tracks! Something will have to be done!



THOMAS TOKEN

THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS is published fortnightly by **MARVEL COMICS LTD**, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2R 3DX.
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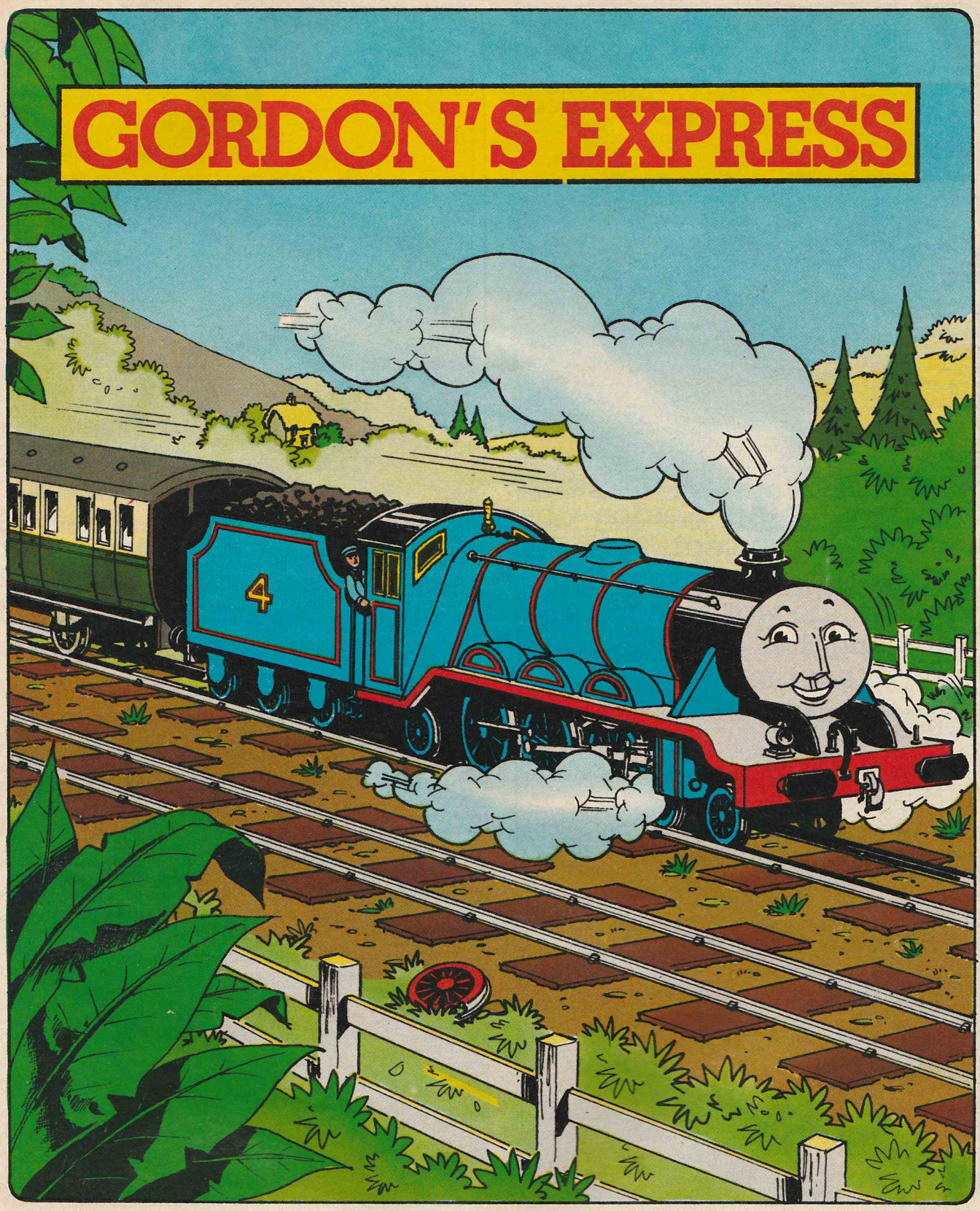
ABC

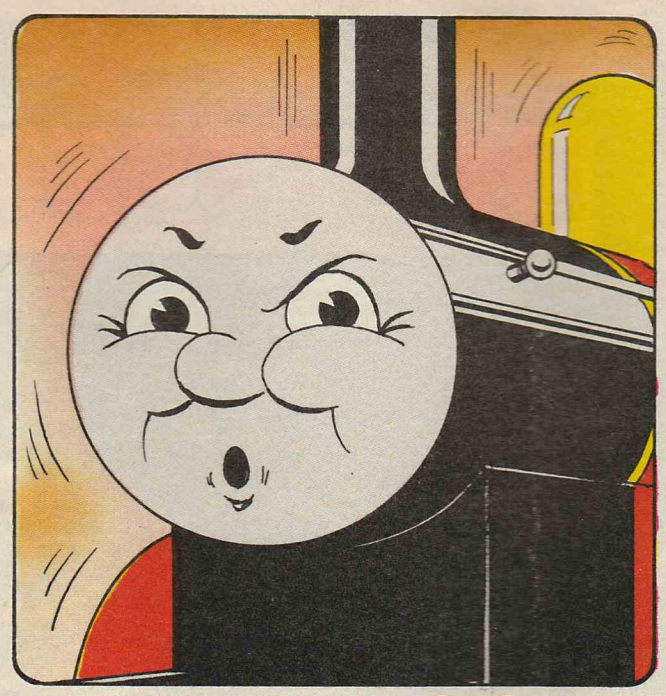
GORDON'S EXPRESS



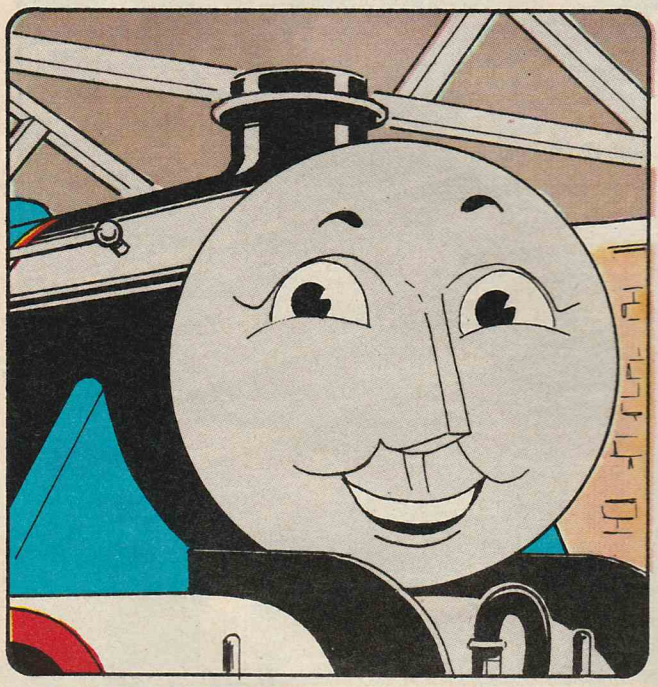
1. Gordon is the fastest, most powerful engine on the Island of Sodor. He is big and blue and he likes to boast to the other engines about how important he is.

2. "I pull the Express," he is forever reminding them. "That's the fastest and most important passenger train on the island!" Gordon is a very proud engine indeed!

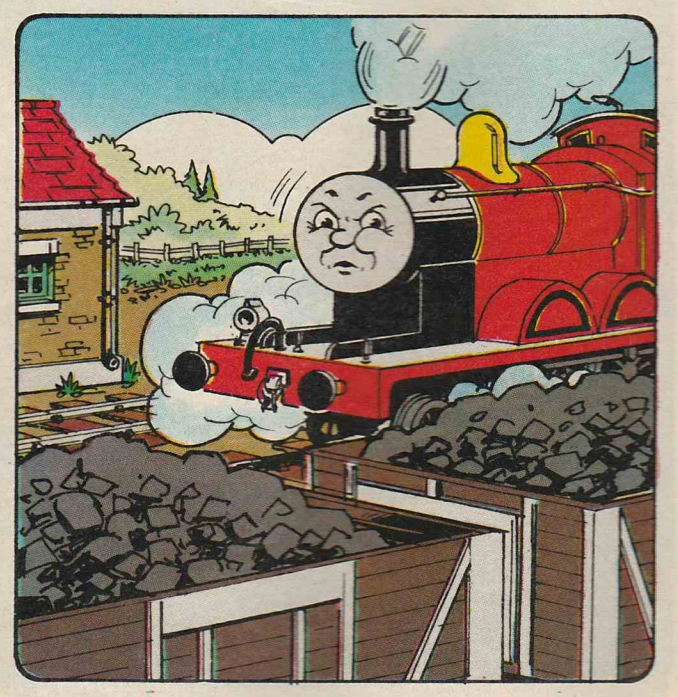
3. One morning, Gordon was boasting as usual. "I'm the only engine who can pull the Express," he was saying. "The Fat Controller couldn't manage without me."



4. "Rubbish!" said James. "Any decent sized engine can pull your trains! You just like to let off steam. Have you forgotten the times I have taken the Express?"

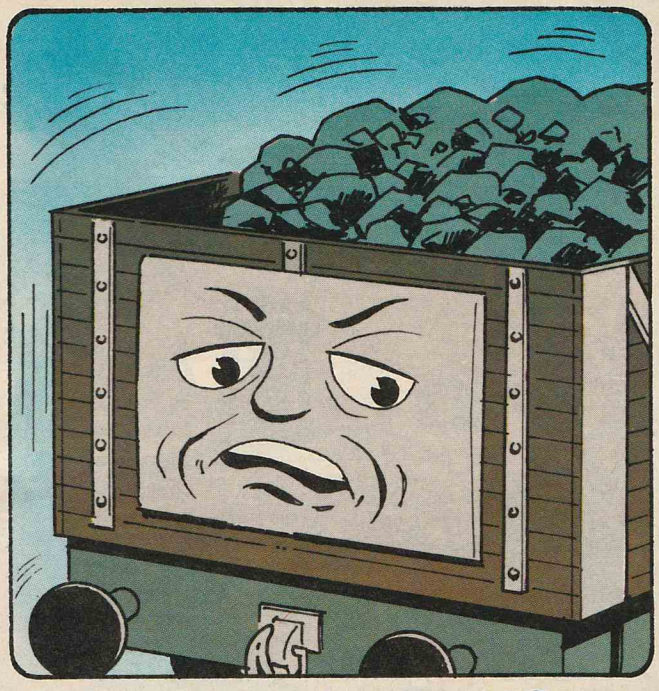


5. "Oh, you may have pulled it once," said Gordon. "But the Fat Controller wouldn't ask you again. You're just jealous because you must pull trucks today!"

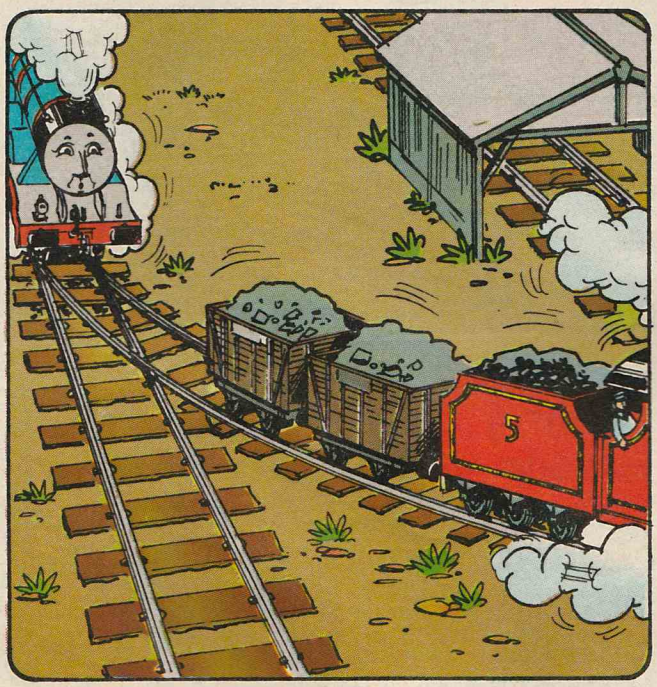


6. It was true. James was to pull trucks that day, and he didn't like it. They were so noisy and dirty. To make matters worse he had to shunt them out himself.

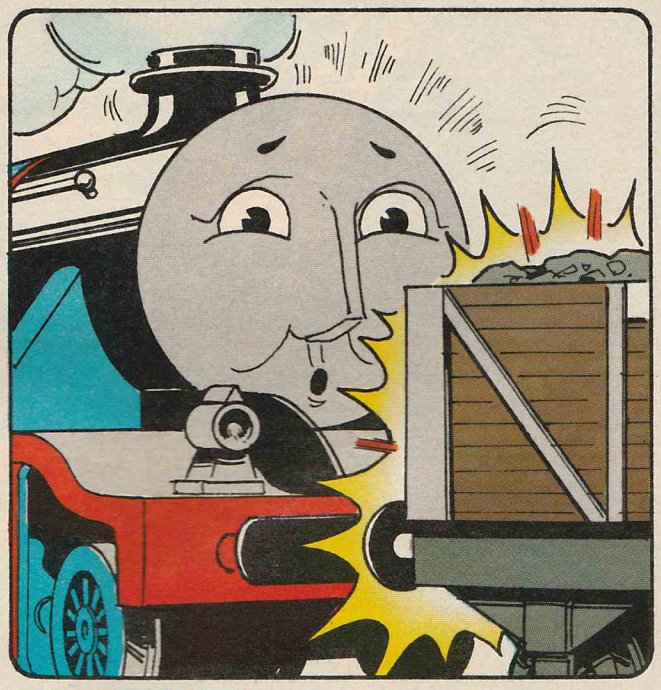
7. So James was already in a very bad mood when Gordon came chugging by. "Are you having fun, pulling those dirty trucks, James?" he teased.



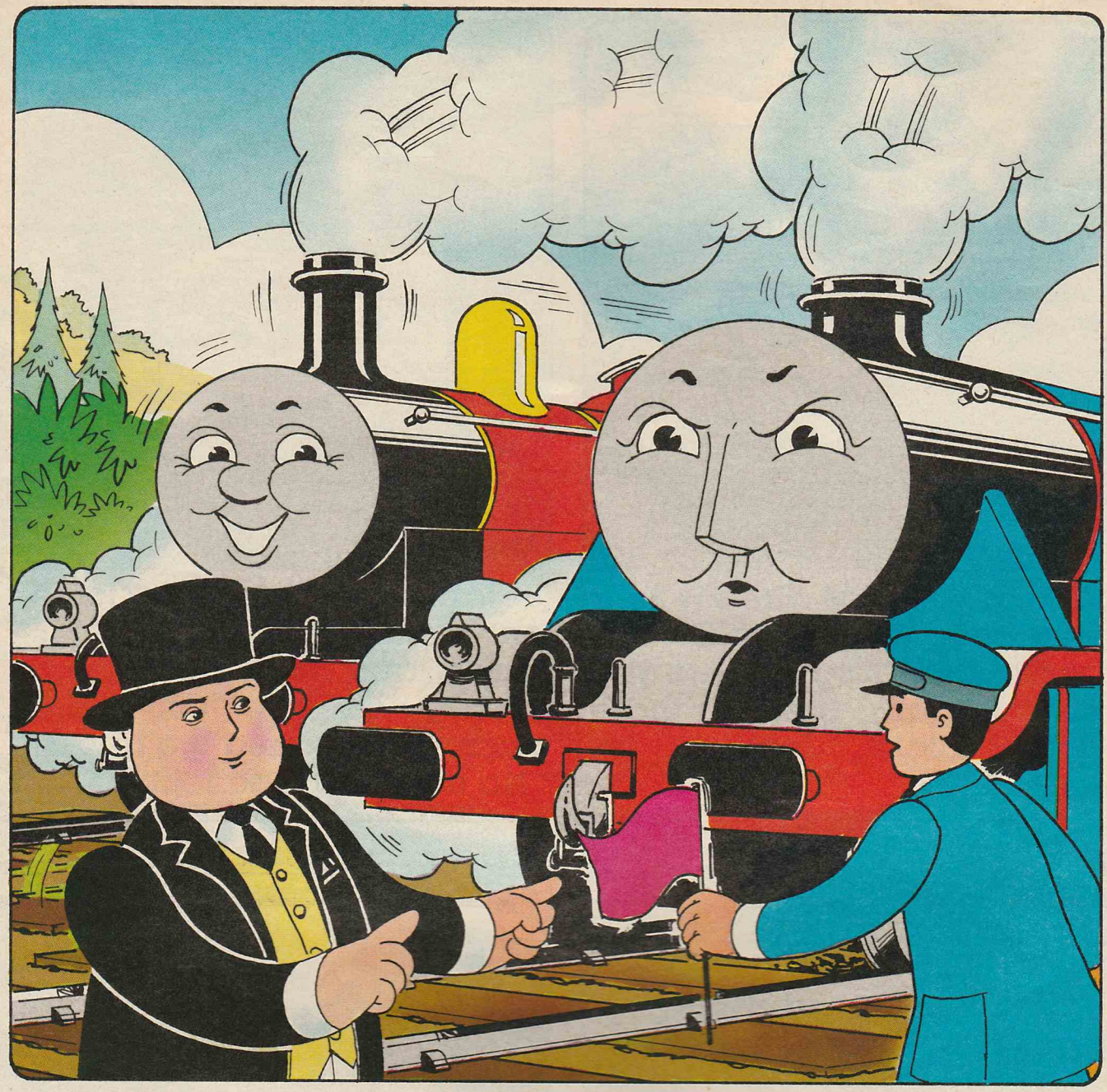
8. James was fuming! "Come on! Come on!" he told his trucks, and he bumped them crossly. "Oh! Oh! Oh! We're coming!" moaned the trucks. "No need to be so rough."



9. Gordon was waiting for the points to change so he could collect his coaches. James didn't see him there. He was backing up with some troublesome trucks . . .



10. **BUMP!** James backed right into Gordon! It wasn't a hard bump, but Gordon was cross. "Ow!" he cried. "You did that on purpose!" "No, I didn't!" protested James.



11. "I never even saw you there!" said James. "You're just jealous of me," said Gordon. "What's all this?" asked the Fat Controller. "It's James, sir," Gordon complained. "He bumped into me on purpose, sir!" "No, sir! I never did, sir!" said James. "It was an accident!" "Never mind about all that, now," said the Fat Controller.

12. "There are passengers waiting for the Express, Gordon. Hurry along, now!" "Yes, sir," said Gordon, but Gordon couldn't move. The bump had jammed his brakes. "You'll have to have that seen to now," said the Fat Controller. "In the meantime James will have to take the Express." "Yes, sir," smiled James. Gordon was furious!

The story continues on page 13!

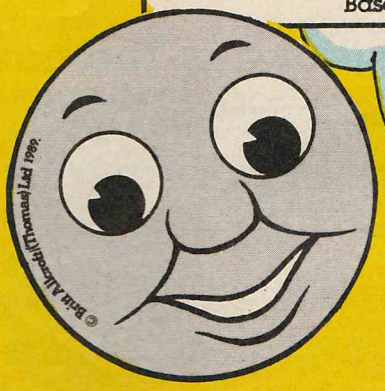
TWO BADGES for YOU!

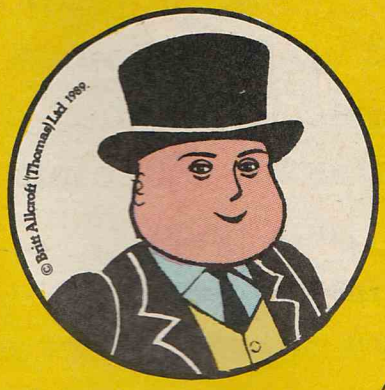
with issues 52&53 of

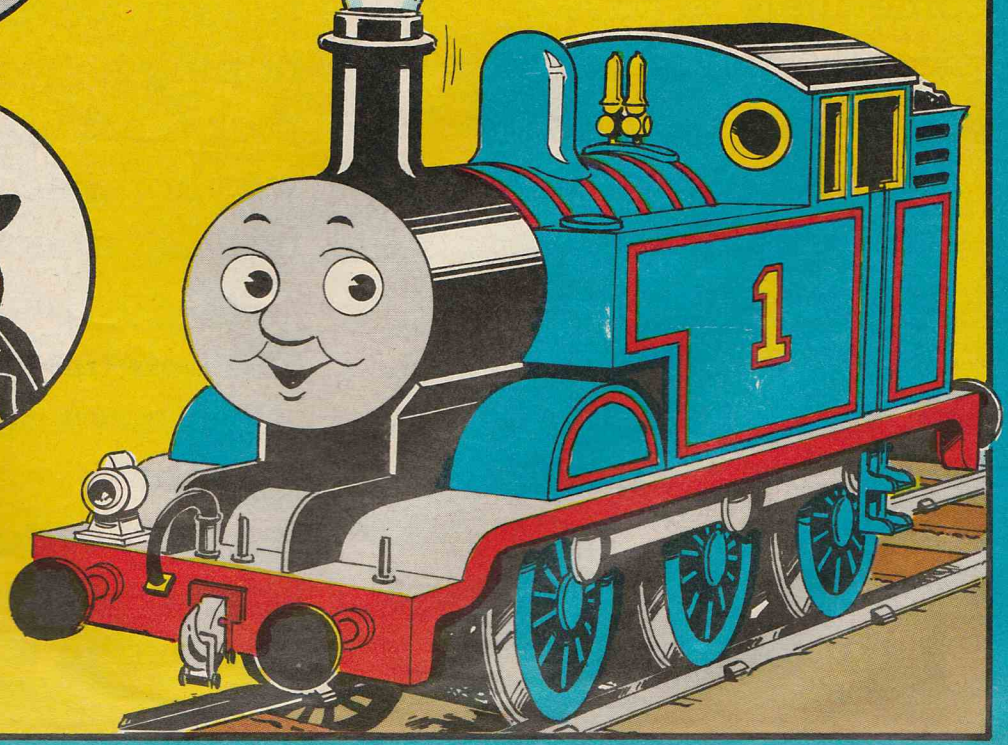
THOMAS THE TANK ENGINE & FRIENDS

Based on The Railway Series by The Rev. W. Awdry.

every fortnight!







On Sale 2nd & 16th Oct 1989

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The Picnic

Thomas was at the main station waiting for his passengers to get into Annie and Clarabel. A man and a woman carrying large baskets came up to him.

"Good morning," said Thomas.

"Good morning," said the man, "we are looking for somewhere to have a picnic. Can you suggest somewhere pleasant?"

"Yes," said Thomas, "there is a beautiful field near the top of the hill with a fine view. It's not near a station, but I can drop you off if my driver does not mind."

The driver did not mind and Thomas dropped the man and the woman at the field near the top of the hill. It was a sunny day and the view was splendid, but clouds were starting to gather.

Later that day Thomas came past the field again. The man and the woman had finished their picnic and were by the railway waving at Thomas, hoping he would stop and pick them up. But Thomas was horrified to see they had left their litter behind!

"Will you pick us up?" shouted the woman.

"You have not even picked up your litter," said Thomas, "so I will certainly not pick up you." The first drops of rain began to fall as Thomas puffed past the

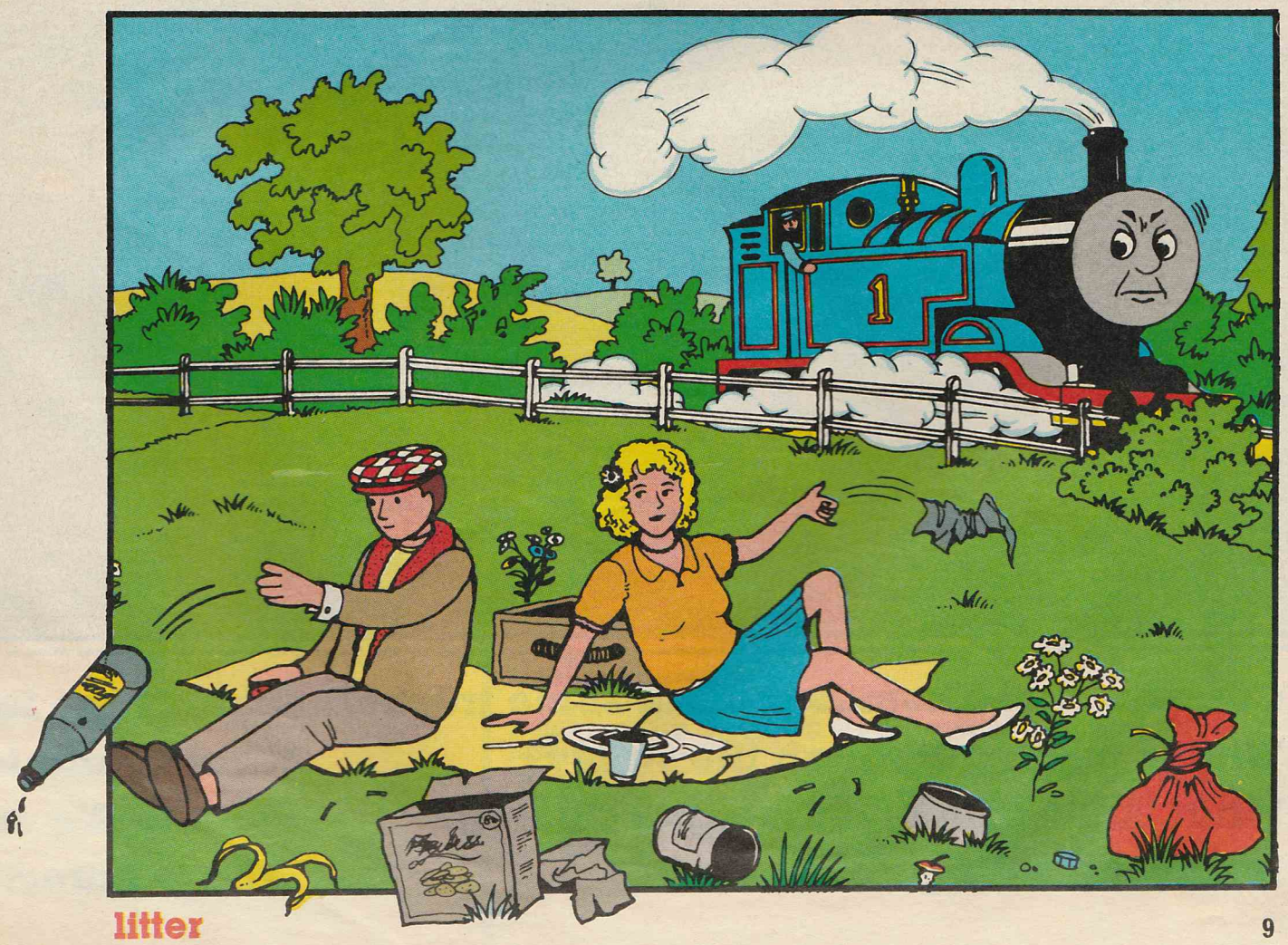
litterbugs. "How could they do it?" Thomas asked his driver. "I take them somewhere nice and they mess it up with their litter They carried it all there, they only had to carry it back to the train and then they could have put it in a bin at a station."

The rain fell heavily and much later on Thomas arrived back at the main station. Two very wet and sorry-looking people were standing on the platform. It was the man and the woman who had left the litter. They had walked all the way back in the rain.

"We have come to say we are sorry," said the man. "We picked up all our litter and some other litter that we found. We will not do it again."

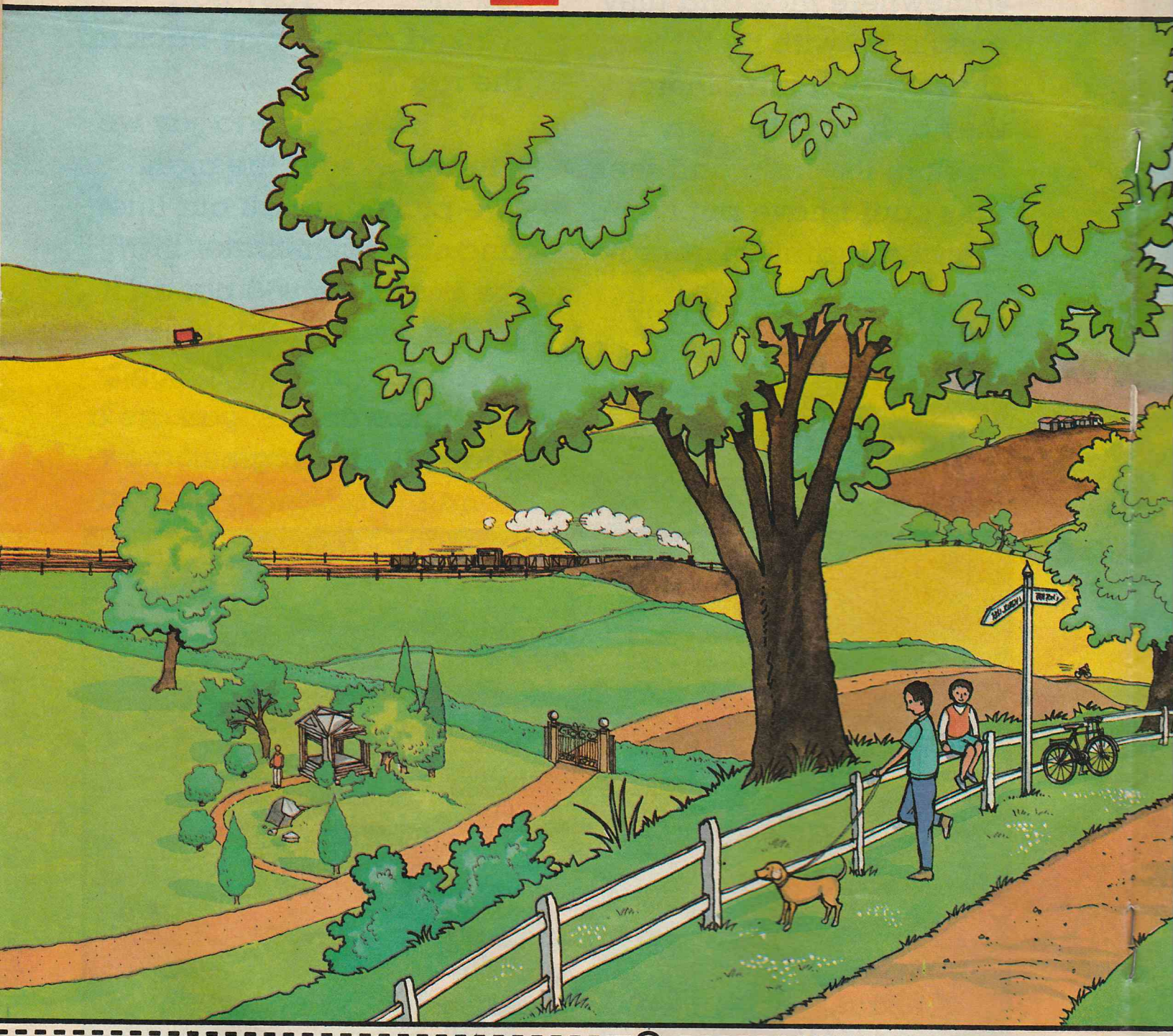
"You taught us a lesson," said the woman, "you are a Really Useful Engine!"

THE END



litter

The picnic!



Can you spot Thomas pulling some trucks?

Who is puffing through the valley?

What is the family on the grass doing?

Is anyone sitting on the fence?

What is the lady o

What colour is her

Point to the church

Who is munching

!!

ady on the path carrying?
s her jumper?
hurch spire!
hing in the tree?

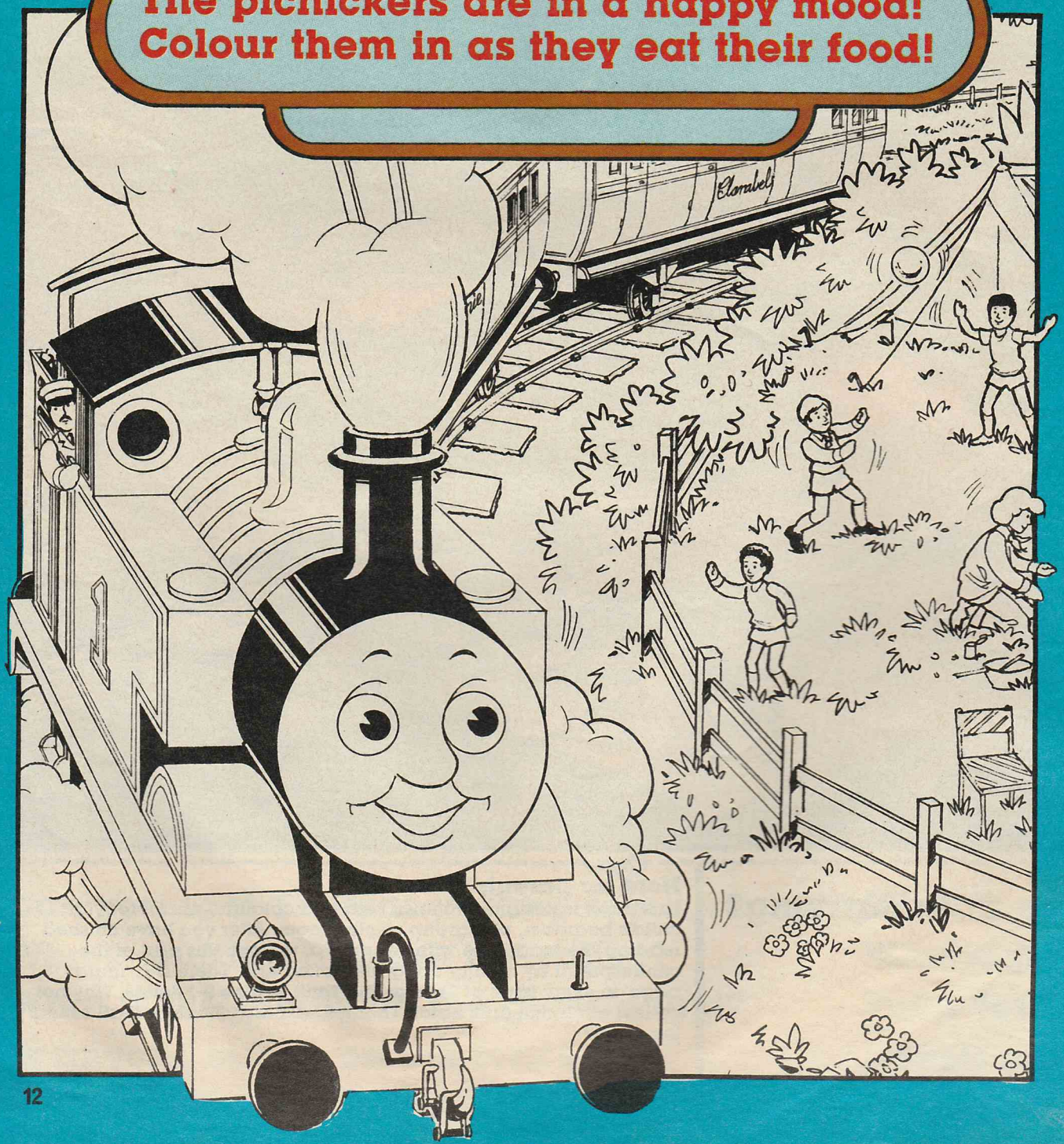
Note for parents

This page is designed to form part of a colourful mural for your child's bedroom, playgroup or classroom. After you have finished reading the magazine with your child, remove this part of the centrespread by cutting along the dotted line. There is a 'mural page' in every issue of **Thomas the Tank Engine & Friends.** Why not collect each one and watch Thomas and his friends puff all round the room?

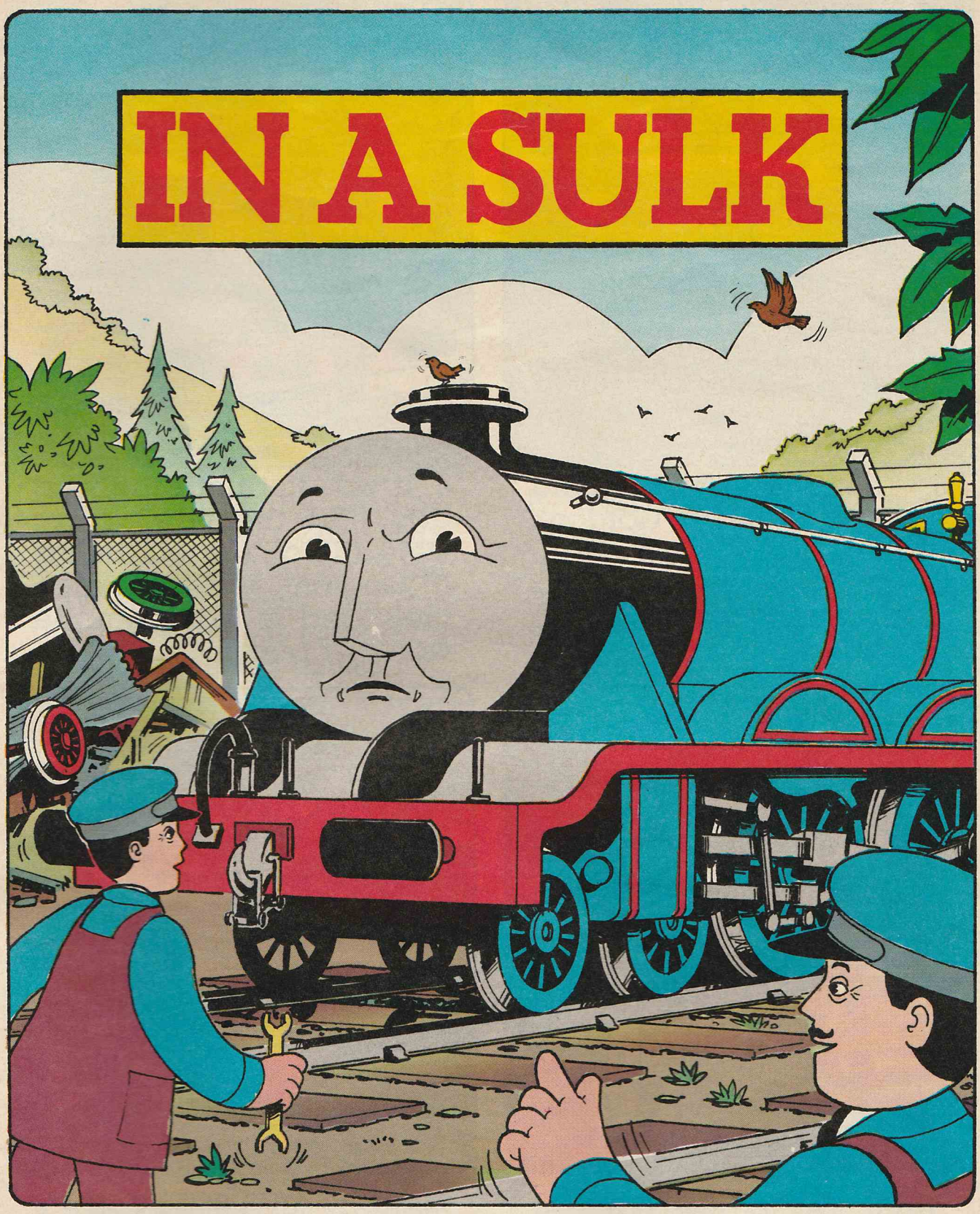
Next: The cycle race!

COLOURING TIME!

The picnickers are in a happy mood!
Colour them in as they eat their food!

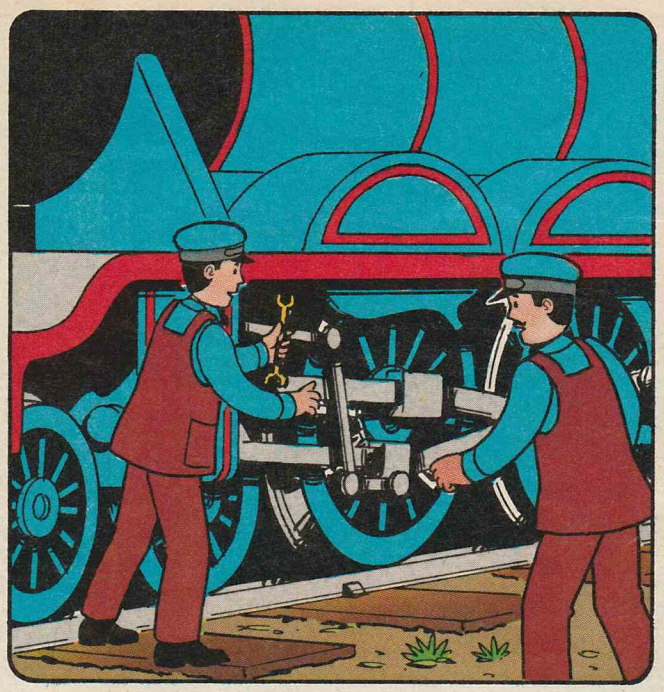


IN A SULK

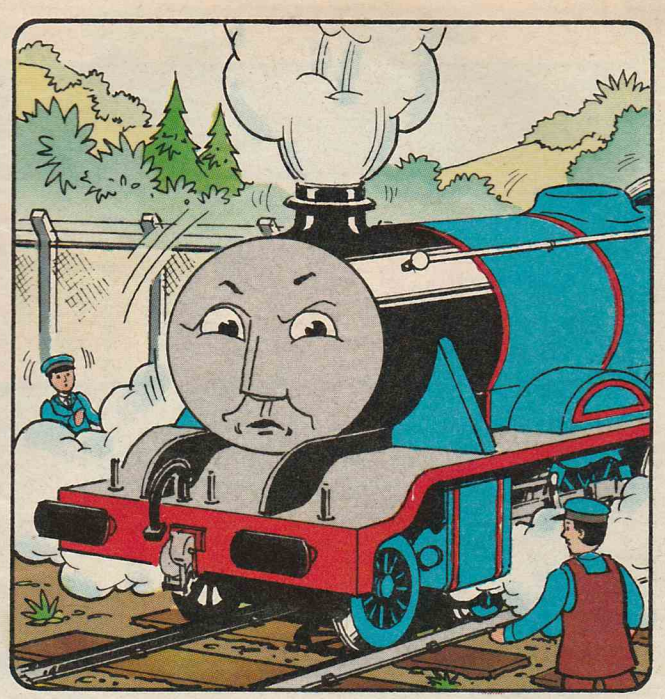


1. Gordon was at the works. James had bumped into him in the yard and his brakes had become jammed. Now they needed mending.

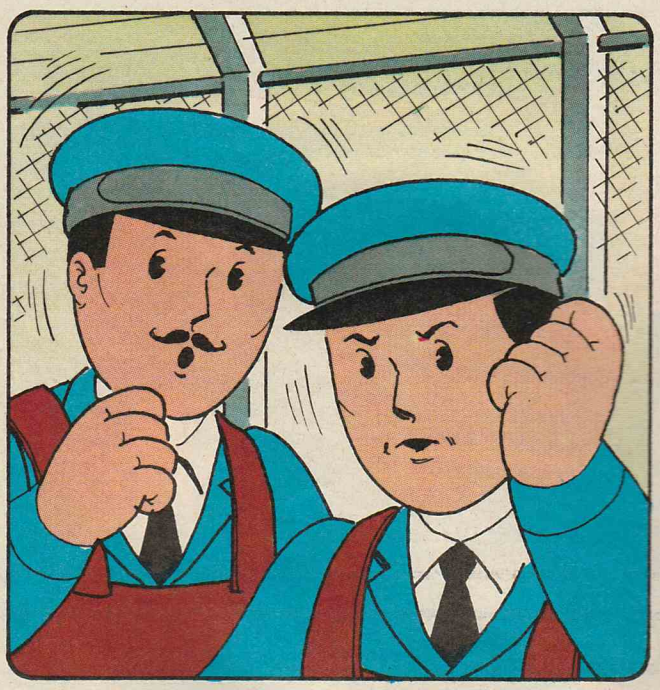
2. Gordon was sulking. He thought James had bumped him on purpose. Worse still, James was now pulling the Express in Gordon's place.



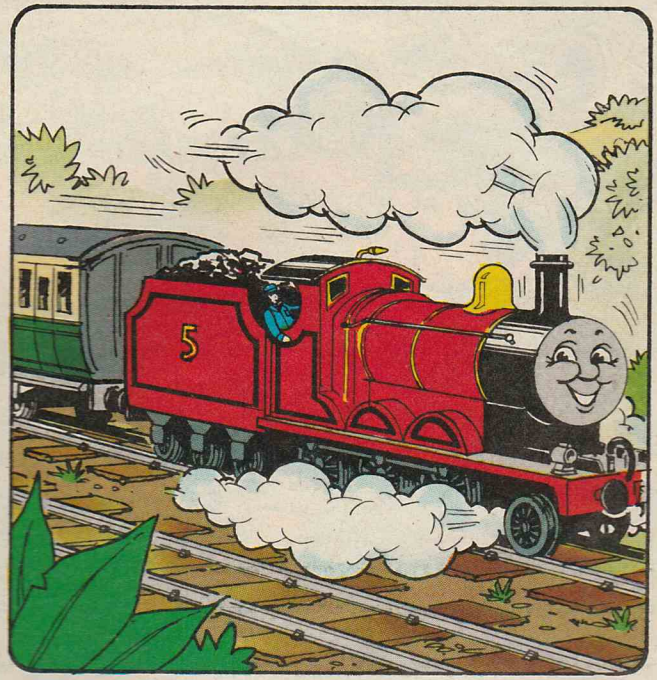
3. The engineers worked hard to repair Gordon's brakes. They had managed to release them, but then found they had to replace some valves.



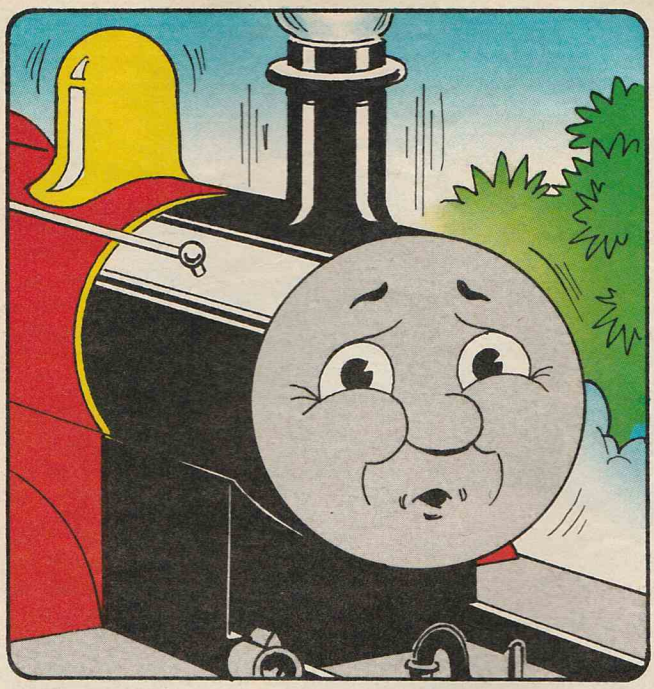
4. It was not until the next day that the new valves were fitted. The engineers lit Gordon's fire, but when they tried to start him, he wouldn't budge!



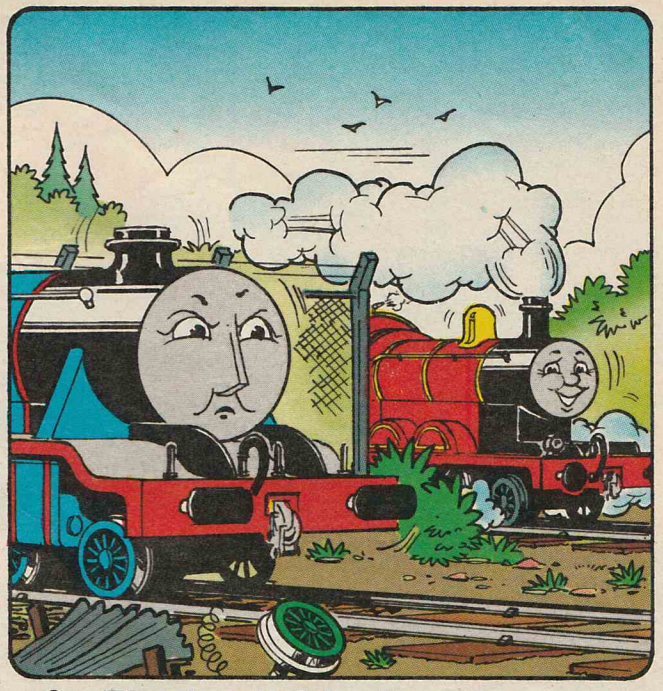
5. Perhaps James's bump had done more damage than the engineers realised. Gordon didn't want to move. He was too busy sulking.



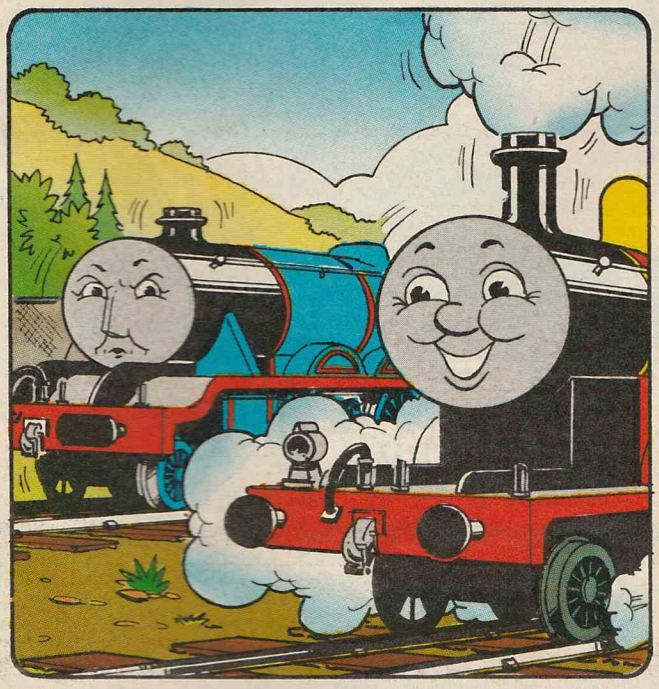
6. James was happy to be pulling the Express. Just like Gordon, it made him feel very important. "Hurry! Hurry!" he puffed, rushing along the line.



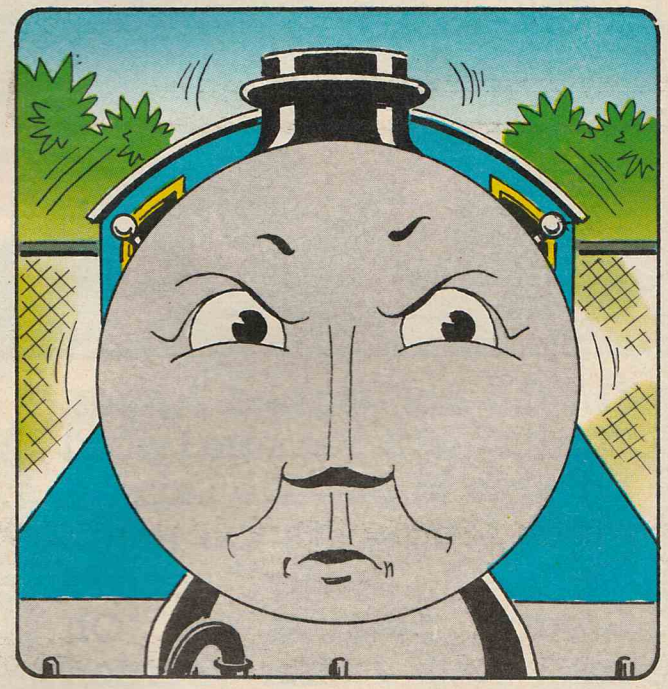
7. But pulling the Express once was one thing. Pulling it all the time, for three days was another! "All this rushing about is too much James," said his driver.



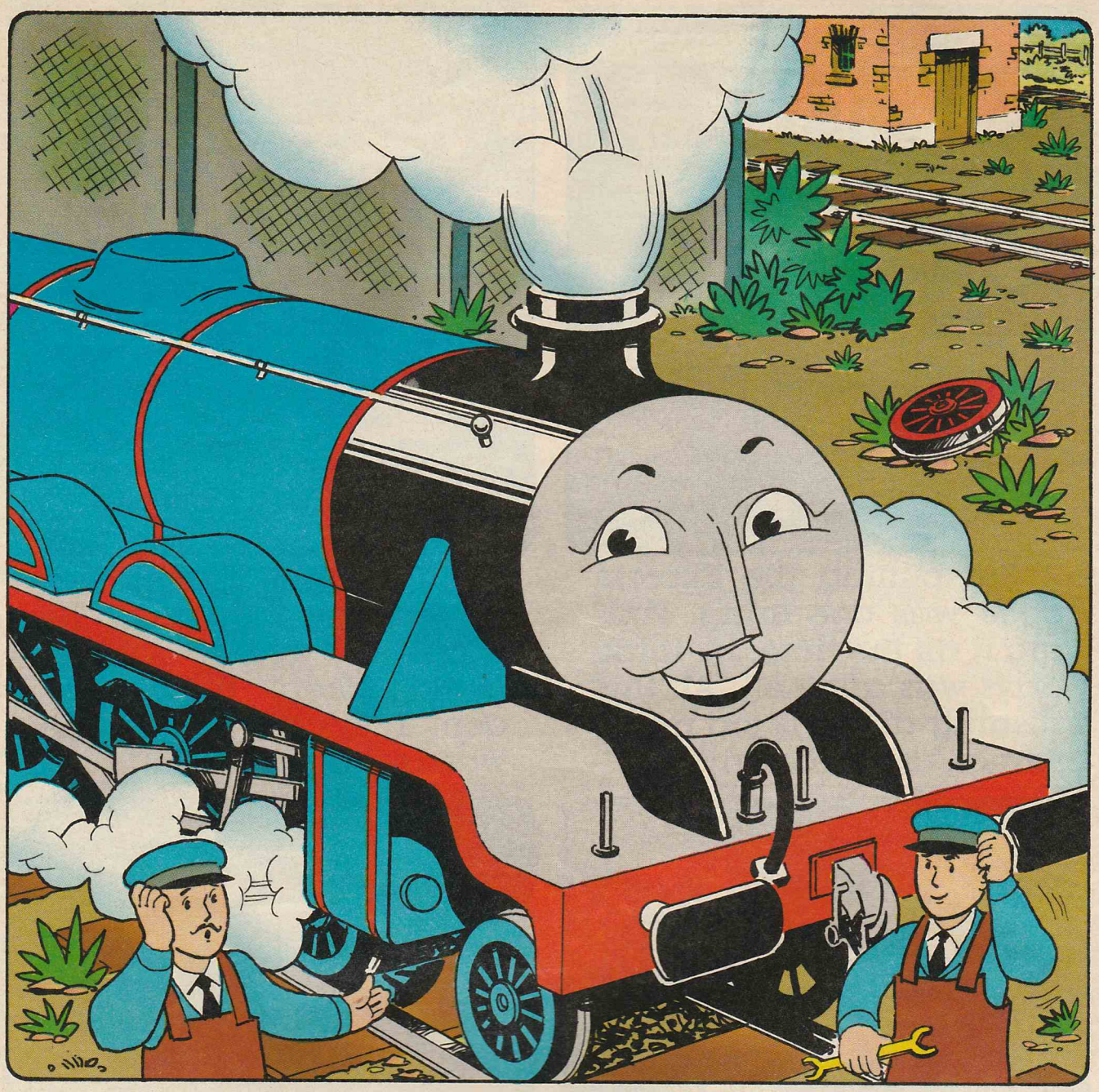
8. That night, James was passing by the works. He gave a weary whistle, "Peep, peep! Hello, Gordon. I hope you will be working again soon!"



9. "Go away!" cried Gordon. "Leave me alone! Haven't you done me enough harm already?" "No hard feelings," said James. "It was an accident."



10. "You would say that!" snorted Gordon. "Thanks to you, nobody needs me! Even a small engine like yourself can take my place pulling the Express!"



11. "Oh no!" sighed James. "That's just it. I'm sure I won't be able to pull the Express much longer. It's too much for me." "Really?" asked Gordon, perking up. "Oh yes," said James. Gordon was feeling better already. The next morning, the engineers came in to work on Gordon.

12. They lit his fire and tried to start him up. Lo and behold, Gordon started up perfectly. "What was wrong do you think?" asked his driver. "I don't know," said the engineer. "But it must have sorted itself out!" So Gordon returned to pulling the Express and to being just as proud as ever.

THE END

In our next issue: Erosion!

JAMES'S JOKE GALLERY!

Why did the sparrow fly into the library?
It was looking for bookworms!
Emma, aged 6.

What did one raspberry say to the other?
We're in a jam!
Michael, aged 3.

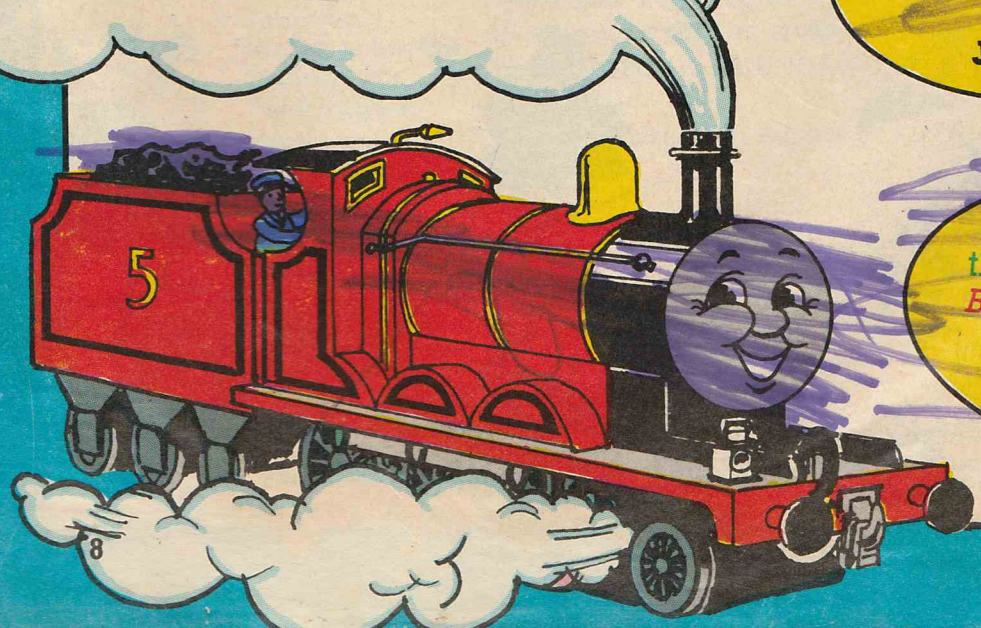
What did the fisherman say to his friend when they met in the middle of the desert?
Long time no sea!
Dennis, aged 5.

What did the spaceman see in the frying pan?
An unidentified frying object!
Tania, aged 6.

What's a cow's favourite TV programme?
The 9 o'clock Mooos!
Jason, aged 4.

Have you got a good joke for James's Joke Gallery? Why not send it in to him at the address on the letters page?

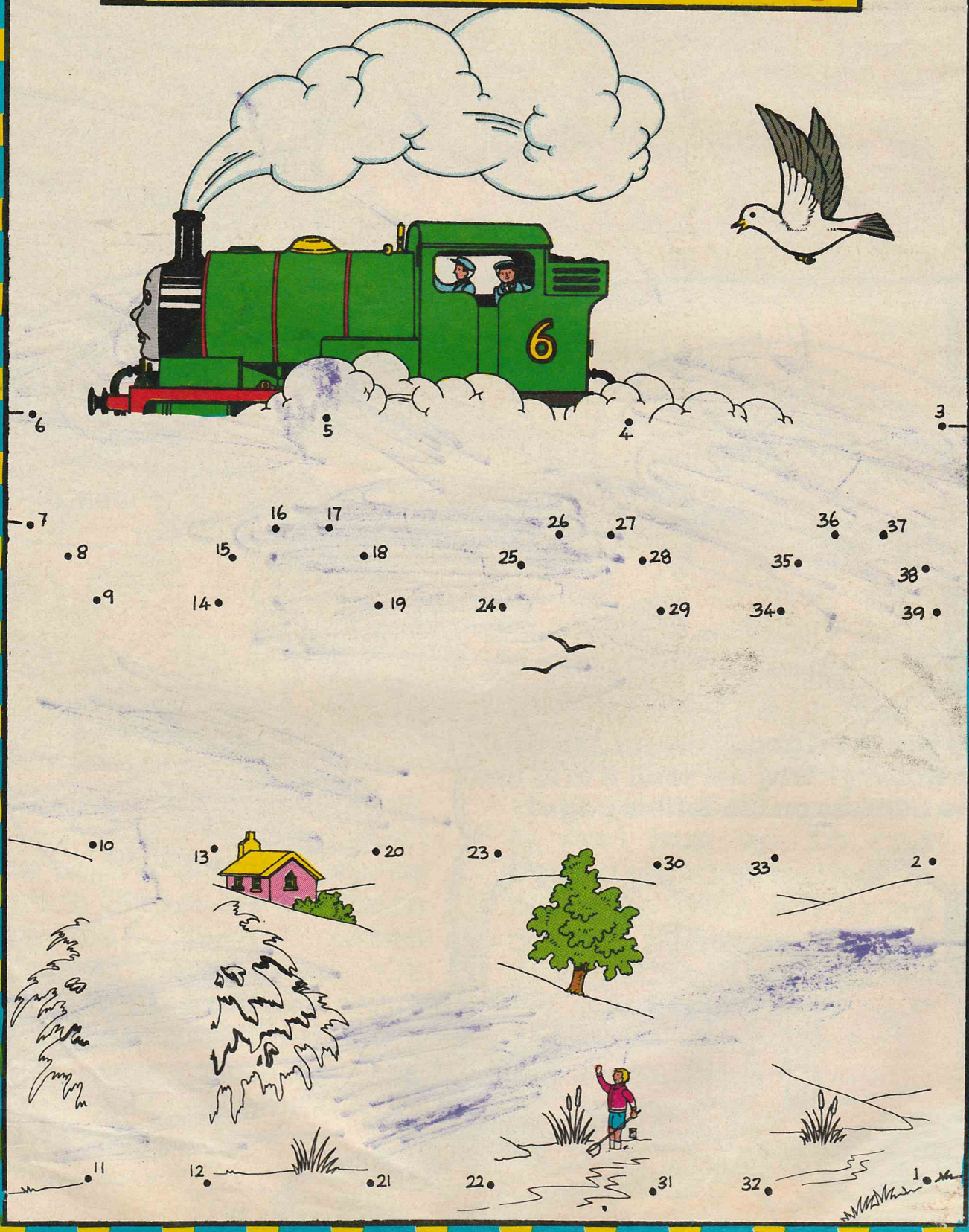
Why did the teacher switch on all the lights?
Because her class was so dim!
Jenny, aged 7.



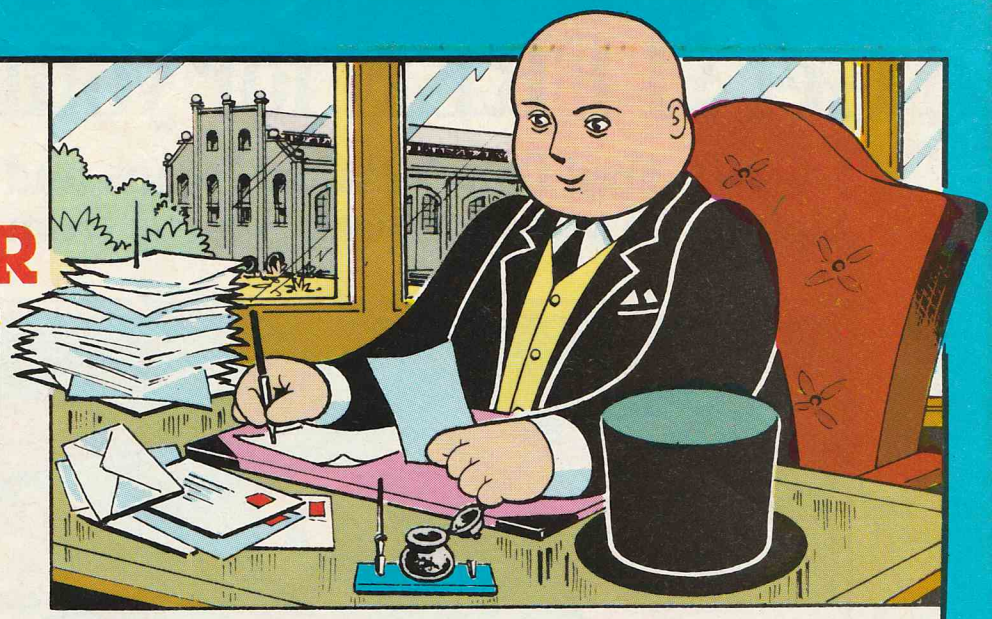
Why was the witch thrown out of school?
Because she couldn't learn to spell!
Deborah, aged 6.

JOIN THE DOTS!

It looks like Percy's learnt to fly!
Join the dots and find out why!



Write to the FAT CONTROLLER



Have you got an amusing story to tell? Do you have a question you would like to ask about Thomas – or any of the other engines? Then why not write to me at the address below? I should be so very pleased to hear from you!

★★★★

STAR LETTER!

Dear Fat Controller,
Does the Fat Controller like pizza like me, or is he always eating crumpets?
Love from **Jean-Paul,**
aged 6 (07344).

Do you know, I have never tried a pizza. I know they eat a great deal of them in Italy though, and the Italians are extremely good cooks. I normally only eat crumpets on Sundays, at 4 o'clock, with my tea.

★★★★

Jean-Paul wins a splendid Thomas the Tank Engine torch from Unilite Leisure Ltd

ALL SPOTTY!

Dear Fat Controller,
I have chicken pox today. I have to stay inside. The End.
From **Michael,** aged 5.

What a nuisance! I do hope you will be better soon, Michael.

FISHY WORK!

Dear Fat Controller,
When Henry pulls the Flying Kipper does he spill any fish?
From **Adrian,** aged 7.

Dear me no! The fish are usually all crated up and roped securely, and if any were spilt I'm sure there'd be trouble.

USEFUL GORDON!

Dear Fat Controller,
How many times a day does Gordon pull the Express?
From **Timothy,** aged 6.

Twice in the mornings, and four times in the afternoons, except on Fridays when he makes an extra trip in the mornings. He is kept very busy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Our very best birthday wishes go to:

Christopher McIntosh and his cousin, Karen Kenny, Gavin Rollings, Ian Clifton, Andrew Ralph (6020), James Eustace, David Pritchards (28321), James Nobbs, Thomas Farr (8668), Matthew Dadd, Joanne Readman, Thomas Walster, Alexander Emberey (27176), Vishal Raja, John Dodd (6622), Jonathan Clark (25159), Robert Risk (25607), David Mayhew, Richard Mundy, John Doyle, Steven Hodgen (21138), Peter Wickendon (24414), Pater Faithfull (7802), Derek Cook (7474), Andrew Connard (13950), John Roberts (26819), James Burman (13905), Andrew Bergin (6092) and Marc Walker (26135)

If you'd like a birthday mention, just send details on a postcard please, at least **9 weeks in advance.** We cannot promise to print all the birthdays we receive, but we will try out best!

Yours,

Sir Topham Hatt

the Fat Controller.

Send your letters to: The Island of Sodor, c/o Marvel Comics Ltd, 13/15 Arundel Street, London WC2.

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ADVERTISEMENT

To obtain your FREE £1 for your piggy bank simply fill in the Application Form/Starter Token (worth 3 labels) on the right and send it to the address indicated together with 17 labels from any of the following brands: **Crosse & Blackwell Alphabetti** Spaghetti, **Crosse & Blackwell Spaghetti Saurus, Crosse & Blackwell Fred Bear's** Baked Beans and Spaghetti Bears. (10 of these must be **special offer** labels). The starter token applies to the £1 FOR YOUR PIGGY offer only.

Please allow at least 28 days for delivery from receipt of application. The offer is valid in the UK only and is restricted to one application per household. Only 1 starter token may be used per application. We cannot accept bulk applications from the trade or from any consumer groups or any third party applications.

CROSSE & BLACKWELL
Eat well.
Crosse & Blackwell

STARTER TOKEN
worth 3 labels.

TO: CROSSE & BLACKWELL, £1 FREE FOR YOUR PIGGY OFFER, P.O. BOX 121, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX TN22 5UT.

Please send me my free £1 coin. I enclose the following labels:

No. ____ **Crosse & Blackwell Alphabetti** Spaghetti labels

No. ____ **Crosse & Blackwell Spaghetti Saurus** labels

No. ____ **Crosse & Blackwell Fred Bear's** Baked Beans and Spaghetti Bears labels

Total number of labels 17. **Only 1 Starter Token may be used per application.**

MR/MRS/MISS _____ (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

COUNTY _____ POSTCODE _____

AGE (PLEASE TICK ONE BOX) 0-5 YEARS ☐ 6-10 YEARS ☐ 11-15 YEARS ☐ 16+ YEARS ☐

MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

TTT

PROMOTER: THE CROSSE & BLACKWELL PROMOTION CENTRE, P.O. BOX 121, UCKFIELD, EAST SUSSEX TN22 5UT.